

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 42)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 + 12x + 38 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(12) \pm \sqrt{(12)^2 - 4(1)(38)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(12) \pm \sqrt{144 - 152}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-12 \pm \sqrt{-8}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-12 \pm \sqrt{-4 \cdot 2}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-12 \pm 2\sqrt{2}i}{2}$$

$$x = -6 \pm \sqrt{2}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $2 - 3i$ and $5 - 8i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$(2 - 3i) \cdot (5 - 8i)$$

$$10 - 16i - 15i + 24i^2$$

$$10 - 16i - 15i - 24$$

$$10 - 24 - 16i - 15i$$

$$-14 - 31i$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 + 2x^2 - 9x - 18$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x - 3)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & 2 & -9 & -18 \\ 3 & 3 & 15 & 18 & \\ \hline & 1 & 5 & 6 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x - 3)(x^2 + 5x + 6)$$

$$f(x) = (x - 3)(x + 2)(x + 3)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = -(x + 4) \cdot (x + 1)^2 \cdot (x - 3) \cdot (x - 7)^2$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

